Dallas Morning News
5-14-78

'Oswald pane' may move with Walker

By KATHLEEN HAST

Former Maj. Gen. Edwin A. Walker may take along a souvenir when he vacates the spacious Turtle Creek Boulevard house he has occupied more than two decades: a window through which Lee Harvey Oswald reportedly fired a rifle shot at Walker shortly before the 1963 Kennedy assassination.

Walker, contacted Saturday as he was moving from the 12- to 14-room house at 4011 Turtle Creek, said he hasn't found a new place, although he wants "do a little farming."

He said he will stay in the Dallas area and is looking for a place with some land either north, east or west of Dallas' inner city.

"Of course, you know there's a window here Oswald shot through," he said, launching into one of the verbal sparring matches of which he is fond. "I've notified Henry Wade, the FBI and the Washington commissions that I'm leaving."

Walker remained silent when asked if he was taking the window as a souvenir, but volunteered that "an FBI agent came out and looked at it yesterday."

Dallas News staff photo by Steve Ueckert.

Billboard reflects sentiment of retired Maj. Gen. Edwin A. Walker.

"It's the first visit I've had from them in 17 years."

Since Walker has been known to enjoy a good put-on every now and then, especially with the press, his hints about the window may be an elaborate joke.

But he has never joked about politics, and he is confident his "Message of the Week" telephone line will continue to warn citizens of the evils of an ever-expanding federal government.

This week's message blasts the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms for trying to "register, control and confiscate firearms."

"What right has the federal government to assume the responsibility for you and your family," a tape-recorded message asks callers of 521-3332.

Saying those on Capitol Hill compose the "Quisling, canal-gate Congress," he skips to another favorite subject of conservatives: "Are you laughing or crying because the government has just robbed you of a canal?"

Walker has gained the national spotlight a number of times since he led federal troops and the Arkansas National Guard to force school integration at Little Rock, Ark., in 1957.

Once the acknowledged leader of those whose political views are somewhat right-wing, Walker has, over the years, regularly changed the slogans on a billboard outside the Turtle Creek home. The billboard also became the subject of controversy when Walker battled the City of Dallas over its zoning ordinances.

Walker said he is moving only because the house was sold by its owner and, since he now has decided to find a smaller place to live, he is shipping many of his belongings to Colorado and Houston, "to people I care about."

"I do better keeping you all straight if I have less here," he said as he laughed.